

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Applicants thank the Examiner for total consideration given the present application. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 11-16 were pending prior to the Office Action. Claims 17-19 have been added through this reply. No claims have been canceled through this reply. Claims 5, 7-9, 11-12, and 16 were withdrawn from consideration. Therefore, claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, and 11-19 are pending. Claims 1, 5, 9, and 13-16 are independent. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims in light of the remarks presented herein, and earnestly seeks a timely allowance of all pending claims.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable by Uchida et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,930,661) in view of Trovato et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,445,306). Claims 3-4, 13, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable by Uchida and Trovato in further view of Hakamada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,870,492). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

For a Section 103 rejection to be proper, a *prima facie* case of obviousness must be established. See *M.P.E.P.* 2142. One requirement to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness is that the prior art references, when combined, must teach or suggest all claim limitations. See *M.P.E.P.* 2142; *M.P.E.P.* 706.02(j). Thus, if the cited references fail to teach or suggest one or more elements, then the rejection is improper and must be withdrawn.

Argument 1 of 2: Features of claims 1, 13, and 15 are not taught by cited prior art:

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “the wireless AV system, further comprising: a command conversion section, in the AV output device, for converting, with reference to the channel identification information, the up-down input operation for a channel selection to a direct channel selection command that is transmitted to the wireless center for causing the tuner section to directly perform channel selection without having to decode and convert an up-down

channel selection command, received by the wireless center from the AV output device and which is not a direct channel selection command, to a direct channel selection command.”

Thus, as described in the specification (see lines 10-19 of page 30), the claimed invention of independent claim 1 provides the following effect:

“at the wireless center unit 3, there is no need of decoding and converting the up-down channel selection command to a direct channel selection command. This shortens a delay time involved in the interval time for exchanging commands, thereby improving a response to the user’s input for up-down channel selection.”

Here, Trovato describes that when a user performs up-down operation, a next or prior channel is selected from a list, and a channel number is transmitted to a channel selector 110. (See Trovato, lines 7-15 of col. 7.)

However, transmitted to the channel selector 110 in Trovato is the “channel number,” and is *not* “a direct channel selection command that is transmitted to the wireless center for causing the tuner section to directly perform channel selection without having to decode and convert an up-down channel selection command,...to a direct channel selection command,” unlike in the present claimed invention of independent claim 1.

That is, the technique disclosed in Trovato requires the channel selector 100 to decode the information indicative of the received channel number (a remote control code indicative of the received channel number) before channel selection. Therefore, with the technique disclosed in Trovato, it is impossible to attain the effect given by the present claimed invention of independent claim 1, *i.e.*, the response improving effect.

Further, Uchida fails to make up for the deficiencies of Trovato. Therefore, claim 1 of the present invention is *not* obvious over Uchida and Trovato.

Therefore, independent claim 1 is submitted to be allowable over Uchida and Trovato for at least the above reasons.

Furthermore, a channel selection method recited in independent claim 13 of the present claimed invention is a method claim similarly corresponding to the wireless AV system recited in independent claim 1, and a feature of independent claim 13 is similar to that of independent claim 1. Also, a channel select data generating method recited in independent claim 15 of the

present claimed invention is a claim directed to a method of generating channel select data for achieving the channel selecting method of independent claims 1 and 13.

Therefore, independent claims 13 and 15 are allowable for similar reasons as set forth above in reference to independent claim 1.

On the other hand, unlike the present claimed invention, Uchida, Trovato, and Hakamada fail to consider (at all) the technical idea that the AV output device generates a direct channel selection command which causes the wireless center to directly perform channel selection. Further, Uchida, Trovato, and Hakamada fail to describe (at all) the configurations recited in independent claims 13 and 15 of the present claimed invention. Hence, independent claims 13 and 15 of the present claimed invention are *not* obvious over Uchida, Trovato, and Hakamada.

Therefore, independent claims 13 and 15 are submitted to be allowable over Uchida, Trovato, and Hakamada for at least the above reasons.

Dependent claims 3-4 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regards to claim 1 at least based on their dependency on claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 3-4, 13, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 3-4, 13, and 15 are respectfully requested for at least the above reasons.

Argument 2 of 2: Features of new claims 17-19 are not taught by cited prior art:

New dependent claims 17-19 recite the following configuration:

- (i) The tuner section is included in the wireless center; and
- (ii) When an input operation (a remote control code corresponding to the input operation) entered by a user is wirelessly transmitted from the remote controller to the AV output device, the AV output device converts the input operation into a direct channel selection command which causes the wireless center to directly select a channel corresponding to the input operation, and wirelessly transmits the direct channel selection command to the wireless center.

Thanks to this, the configuration in which the tuner section is not included in the AV output device but in the wireless center communicating with the AV output device wirelessly achieves the following effect: The wireless center has no need for

“decoding and converting the up-down channel selection command to a direct channel selection command to a direct channel selection command. This shortens a delay time involved in the interval time for exchanging commands, thereby improving a response to the user’s input for up-down channel selection.” (See specification, lines 10-19 of page 30.)

On the other hand, the technique disclosed in Trovato is directed to a conventional, generally-used system in which the remote control 100 transmits, to the channel selector 110 included in an appliance 150, a remote control code indicative of a channel number corresponding to user’s operation. (See Trovato, Figure 1.) Further, Trovato fails to disclose: (1) a wireless center communicating with the appliance 150 (or the channel selector 110) wirelessly is included; (2) A tuner section is included in a wireless center, not in the appliance 150 (or the channel selector 110); and (3) the appliance 150 (or the channel selector 110) converts a remote control code indicative of a channel number received from the remote control 100, into a direct channel selection command which causes a wireless center to directly select a channel corresponding to the channel number, and the appliance 150 (or the channel selector 110) wirelessly transmits the direct channel selection command to the wireless center.

That is, the present claimed invention relates to a system not only for wireless communication between the remote controller and the AV output device, but also for the wireless communication between the AV output device and the wireless center. In view of this, a configuration on which the present claimed invention is based differs from that of a communication system, as the one disclosed in Trovato which relates merely to transmission of a remote control signal between the remote controller and the channel selector. On this account, the present claimed invention and Trovato have completely different objects, and provide completely different effects.

Also, unlike the present claimed invention, Uchida and Hakamada fail to consider (at all) generating a direct channel selection command which causes the wireless center to directly perform channel selection. Hence, new dependent claims 17-19 of the present application are not obvious over Uchida, Trovato, and Hakamada.

Therefore, dependent claim 17-19 are submitted to be allowable over Uchida, Trovato, and Hakamada for at least the above reasons.

Consideration and allowance of claims 17-19 are respectfully requested for at least the above reasons.

Conclusion

Therefore, for at least these reasons, all claims are believed to be distinguishable over the combination of Uchida, Hakamada, and Trovato, individually or in any combination. It has been shown above that the cited references, individually or in combination, may not be relied upon to show at least these features. Therefore, claims 1, 3-4, 13, 15, and 17-19 are distinguishable over the cited references.

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request that the pending application be allowed.

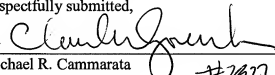
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Aslan Ettehadieh Reg. No. 62,278 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By


Michael R. Cammarata
Registration No.: 39,491

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant